I. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Presently amended) A method for electronically creating a contract between a buyer and a

   seller in an online transaction by means of a read only shopping token that contains a

   plurality of agreement terms; wherein the shopping token is created in a single file at a single

   computer that is accessible by both the buyer and the seller, the method comprising:~so that it~

   ~is not necessary to check out the file from a server computer to a client computer and to~

   ~check in the file from the client computer to the server computer; and~

   ~wherein the shopping token is created without linking a compilation of business rules residing~

   ~on an administrator organization electronic commerce system to a terms and conditions set~

      creating an XML file at a single computer that is accessible by both the buyer and the

   seller; and

      responsive to the addition of a buyer digital signature and a seller digital signature to

   the XML file, saving the XML file as the read only shopping token;

   wherein data in the shopping token cannot be cut and pasted from the shopping token, the

   shopping token can be stored on a buyer computer, a seller computer, or a third party computer,

   and the shopping token is indexed so that it can be distinguished from another shopping token.~,~

2. (Canceled)

3. (Presently Amended) The method of claim 1~2~ further comprising:

      adding a seller's personal information to the XML file;

      adding a buyer's personal information to the XML file;

      adding information regarding a good to the XML file; and

      adding a plurality of terms to the XML file.

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4. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 further comprising:

    presenting the terms to the buyer and the seller;

    determining whether the buyer and the seller agree with the terms; and

    responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller agree with the terms, adding a buyer digital signature and a seller digital signature to the XML file to create a shopping token.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:

    responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller do not agree with the terms, accepting a modification to the terms.

6. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token is a created after the buyer is aware of the delivery date for the good.

7. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token may be configured so that the shopping token is not modifiable by the buyer or the seller.

8. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token is stored on a third party computer and is accessible by the buyer and the seller.

9. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token contains warranty information for the good.

10. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token provides price protection for the good.

11. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token provides price promotion for the good.

12. (Presently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the shopping token provides a seller's history.

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13. Cancelled.

14. (Presently amended) A program product for electronically creating a contract between a

buyer and a seller in an online transaction by means of a shopping token that contains a

plurality of agreement terms comprising:

a computer-usable medium;

wherein the computer usable medium comprises instructions for a computer to

perform steps comprising:

instructions for creating an XML file on a computer that is accessible to both

the buyer and the seller;

instructions for recording the preliminary contract terms between the buyer

and the seller into the XML file;

instructions for adding a plurality of contract terms to the XML file, wherein

the preliminary contract terms may be supplemented, modified or deleted by the

buyer and the seller prior to a final contract between the buyer and the seller;

responsive to the addition of a buyer digital signature and a seller digital

signature to the XML file, instructions for saving the XML file as ~~the~~a read only

shopping token;

instructions for creating the shopping token in a single file at a single

computer ~~so that it is not necessary to check out the file from a server computer to a client~~

~~computer and to check in the file from the client computer to the server computer~~; and

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wherein the shopping token contains the final contract terms between the buyer and

the seller.~~is created without linking a compilation of business rules residing on an~~

~~administrator organization electronic commerce system to a terms and conditions set.~~

15. (Presently amended) The program product of claim 14 further comprising:

instructions for adding a seller's personal information to the XML file;

instructions for adding a buyer's personal information to the XML file;

instructions for adding information regarding a good to the XML file;

~~instructions for adding a plurality of terms to the XML file;~~

instructions to prevent data from being cut and pasted from the shopping token; and

instructions to index the shopping token so that it can be distinguished from another

shopping token.

16. (Original) The program product of claim 15 further comprising:

instructions for presenting the terms to the buyer and the seller;

instructions for determining whether the buyer and the seller agree with the terms;

and

responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller agree with the terms,

instructions for adding a buyer digital signature and a seller digital signature to the XML file

to create a shopping token.

17. (Original) The program product of claim 16 further comprising:

responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller do not agree with the terms,

instructions for accepting a modification to the terms.

18. (Original) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token is a created after the

buyer is aware of the delivery date for the good.

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19. (Original) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token may be configured so that the shopping token is not modifiable by the buyer or the seller.

20. (Original) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token is stored on a third party computer and is accessible by the buyer and the seller.

21. (Original) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token contains warranty information for the good.

22. (Previously amended) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token provides price protection for the good.

23. (Previously amended) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token provides price promotion for the good.

24. (Previously amended) The program product of claim 14 wherein the shopping token provides a seller's history.

25. Cancelled.

26. (Presently amended) A shopping token recorded on a computer readable medium that contains a plurality of agreement terms between a buyer and a seller created by computer implemented steps comprising:

a computer readable storage medium;

a computer program stored in the storage medium, wherein the storage medium, so configured by the computer program, causes a computer to perform the steps of:

creating a computer readable XML file that is accessible by both a buyer and a seller in an on-line transaction;

responsive to the addition of a buyerreceiving a digital signature in response to an input from the buyer indicating the consent of the buyer to the contract terms;

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~~and a seller~~receiving a different digital signature in response to an input from the seller indicating the consent of the seller to the contract terms;

saving each digital signature to the XML file,; and

saving the XML file as a read only ~~the~~ shopping token;

~~wherein the shopping token is created in a single file at a single computer so that it is not necessary to check out the file from a server computer to a client computer and to check in the file from the client computer to the server computer;~~

wherein responsive to creation of the shopping token, a contract is electronically crated between a buyer and a seller in- ~~an~~the online transaction; and

wherein the shopping token will be invalidated upon any subsequent change in the contract terms.~~is created without linking a compilation of business rules residing on an administrator organization electronic commerce system to a terms and conditions set.~~

27. (Previously amended) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the steps further comprise:

adding a seller's personal information to the XML file;

adding a buyer's personal information to the XML file;

adding information regarding a good to the XML file;

adding a plurality of terms to the XML file;

securing data in the shopping token so that it cannot be cut and pasted from the shopping token;

responsive to a selection by a buyer, a seller, or a third party, storing the shopping token on a buyer computer, a seller computer, or a third party computer; and

indexing the shopping token so that it can be distinguished from another shopping token.

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28. (Presently amended) The shopping token of claim 21 further comprising:

presenting the terms to the buyer and the seller;

determining whether the buyer and the seller agree with the terms; and

responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller agree with the terms, adding

a buyer digital signature and a seller digital signature to the XML file to create a shopping

token.

29. (Presently amended) The XML file~~shopping token~~ of claim 4 further comprising:

responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller do not agree with the terms,

accepting a modification to the terms.

30. (Original) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the shopping token is a created after the

buyer is aware of the delivery date for the good.

31. (Original) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the shopping token may be configured so

that the shopping token is not modifiable by the buyer or the seller.

32. (Original) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the shopping token is stored on a third

party computer and is accessible by the buyer and the seller.

33. (Original) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the shopping token contains warranty

information for the good.

34. (Previously amended) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the shopping token provides

price protection for the good.

35. Canceled

36. (Previously amended) The shopping token of claim 26 wherein the shopping token provides

a seller's history.

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37. (Presently amended) An apparatus for creating a shopping token that contains a plurality of agreement terms between a buyer and a seller comprising:

means for creating an XML file on a computer that is accessible by the buyer and the seller;

means for adding a seller's personal information to the XML file;

means for adding a buyer's personal information to the XML file;

means for adding information regarding a good to the XML file;

means for adding a plurality of terms to the XML file;

means for presenting the terms to the buyer and the seller;

means for determining whether the buyer and the seller agree with the terms; and

responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller agree with the terms, means for adding a buyer digital signature and a seller digital signature to the XML file to create a read only shopping token;

responsive to the determination that the buyer and seller do not agree with the terms, means for accepting a modification to the XML fileterms;

wherein the shopping token is a created after the buyer is aware of the delivery date for the good;

wherein the shopping token may be configured so that the shopping token is not modifiable by the buyer or the seller or any third party;

wherein the shopping token is stored on a third party computer and is accessible by the buyer and the seller;

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wherein the shopping token is created in a single file at a single computer so that it is not necessary to check out the file from a server computer to a client computer and to check in the file from the client computer to the server computer;

wherein data in the shopping token cannot be cut and pasted from the shopping token, the shopping token can be stored on a buyer computer, a seller computer, or a third party computer, and the shopping token is indexed so that it can be distinguished from another shopping token; and

wherein the shopping token is created without linking a compilation of business rules residing on an administrator organization electronic commerce system to a terms and conditions set is invalidated upon any subsequent change in the contract terms between the buyer and the seller.

38. (Original) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the shopping token contains warranty information for the good.

39. (Previously amended) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the shopping token provides price protection for the good.

40. (Previously amended) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the shopping token provides price promotion for the good.

41. (Previously amended) The apparatus of claim 37 wherein the shopping token provides a seller's history.

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